

HB 650 -- MOTORCYCLE LIGHTING

SPONSOR: Cornejo

COMMITTEE ACTIONS: Voted "Do Pass by Consent" by the Standing Committee on Transportation by a vote of 11 to 0. Voted "Do Pass by Consent" by the Select Committee on Rules by a vote of 7 to 0.

This bill allows a motorcyclist to use amber and white illumination, standard bulb running lights, and light-emitting diode pods and strips while operating a motorcycle. The bill requires that aforementioned auxiliary lighting be non-flashing, non-blinking, non-oscillating, and directed toward the engine and drive train of the motorcycle to prevent interference with the motorcyclist's operation of the motorcycle.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that adding lights will improve the limited visibility of motorcycles, increasing safety on Missouri roads. Moreover, the possibility of the lights distracting other motorists is mitigated by the fact that the lights must be non-flashing, non-blinking, non-oscillating, and directed toward the engine.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Cornejo; Shawn Brune, Freedom of the Road Riders; Bill Sankus, The Neon Cycle; Tony Shepherd; and Jason Cadell.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.